

Message Text

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42

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ORM-02 DHA-02 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 /067 W

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R 152054Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2393

INFO AMEMBASSY QUITO

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EO: 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR CO EC

SUBJ: ECUADORIAN EXILES IN BOGOTA

1. BOGOTA DAILY EL TIEMPO REPORTED ON DEC 14 THAT A GROUP OF ECUADORIAN EXILES IN COLOMBIA, CALLING ITSELF THE "JUNTA CIVICA" HAD ANNOUNCED THE IMMINENT ARRIVAL FROM BUENOS AIRES OF FORMER PRESIDENT VELASCO IBARRA. A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EXILES SAID THAT VELASCO WOULD JOIN THE JUNTA CIVICA IN ITS MOVEMENT OF OPPOSITION TO ECUADORIAN PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ. A UPI REPORT FROM BUENOS AIRES HOWEVER, STATES THAT VELASCO PLANS SIMPLY TO MEET WITH "OLD FRIENDS".

2. THE JUNTA CIVICA IS LED BY FORMER ECUADORIAN PRESIDENT CARLOS JULIO AROSEMENA MONROY. OTHER MEMBERS INCLUDE CAMILO PONCE AND PABLO DAVALOS OF THE PONCISTA FRONT, GUILLERMO CABRERA OF THE ECUADORIAN SOCIALIST PARTY, OTTO AROSEMENA AND DARIO MACHUCA OF THE INSTITUTIONALIST DEMOCRATIC COALITION, JOSE VICENTE ORTUNO OF THE REVOLUTIONARY NATIONALIST PARTY, AND UNIVERSO ZAMBRANO OF THE VALASQUEZ PARTY. A JUNTA REPRESENTATIVE SAID THAT THE GROUP WOULD NOT FORM A GOVERNMENT IN EXILE IN COLOMBIA. HE DID NOT, HOWEVER, EXPLAIN EXACTLY WHAT THE JUNTA HAD IN MIND. TWO WEEKS AGO THE EXILES ANNOUNCED THEIR INTENTION TO RETURN TO ECUADOR "TO COMPLETE THE TASK THEY HAD BEGUN AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR".

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3. EL TIEMPO ALSO REPORTED THAT COL. GONZALES ALVEAR, LEADER OF THE RECENT ABORTIVE COUP IN ECUADOR, HAD ARRIVED INCOGNITO IN BOGOTA ON DEC 10. THE GONZALEZ COUP ATTEMPT WAS SUPPORTED BY THE JUNTA CIVICA AND IT IS EXPECTED THAT GONZALEZ AND THE JUNTA WILL DISCUSS POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION.

4. EL TIEMPO ALSO QUOTED FORMER PRESIDENT VELASCO AS SAYING THAT HE HOPED THERE WOULD BE A MILITARY MOVEMENT TO BRING DOWN THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT IN QUITO.

5. COMMENT: DESPITE THE PRESENCE OF THE JUNTA IN BOGOTA AND THE ARRIVALS OF VELASCO AND GONZALEZ, SIGNIFICANT ACTION BY THE EX-ILES HERE IS UNLIKELY. COLOMBIA MAINTAINS GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE CURRENT ECUADORIAN GOVERNMENT AND WOULD PRESUMABLY BE RELUCTANT TO ALLOW FOREIGN DISSIDENTS TO CREATE UNWANTED PROBLEMS.
VAKY

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